

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A power transmission chain comprising:

a plurality of link plates individually including through-holes, having their side surfaces covered by a coating material capable of being readily abraded or separated by using the chain, and arranged as mutually overlapped in a thicknesswise direction thereof; ~~and~~

a plurality of pins inserted through the through-holes for flexibly interconnecting the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates; and

~~a coating on the plurality of link plates,~~ the coating material having a lubrication component.

4. (Currently Amended) A power transmission chain according to Claim 3, wherein the coating material comprises a stearate lubrication component.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a power transmission chain including:

a plurality of link plates individually including through-holes and arranged as mutually overlapped in a thicknesswise direction thereof on their side surfaces; and a plurality of pins inserted through the through-holes for flexibly interconnecting the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates, the method comprising:

a coating step of coating the side surfaces of the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates with a coating material capable of being readily abraded or separated by using the chain, the coating material having a lubrication component;

a pin lay-out step of laying out the ~~plural-plurality of~~ pins at a predetermined pitch; and

an interconnection step of inserting the ~~plural-plurality of~~ pins so arranged into the through-holes thereby sequentially interconnecting the link plates which are mutually overlapped on their side surfaces.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a power transmission chain including:

a plurality of link plates individually including through-holes and arranged as mutually overlapped in a thicknesswise direction thereof on their side surfaces; and a plurality of pins inserted through the through-holes for flexibly interconnecting the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates, the method comprising:

a coating step of coating the side surfaces of the link plates with a stearate lubrication coating process to form a coating that is readily abraded or separated by using the chain;

a link-plate lay-out step of laying out the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates at predetermined positions and in overlapping relation with respect to the thicknesswise direction thereof; and

an interconnection step of interconnecting the ~~plural-plurality of~~ link plates located at the predetermined positions by inserting the pins through the through-holes.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A power transmission assembly comprising:

a first and a second pulley each possessing a pair of conical sheave surfaces opposing each other; and

the power transmission chain according to Claim 3 entrained between ~~these~~ the first and second pulleys and contacting the sheave surfaces for power transmission.

11. (Currently Amended) A power transmission assembly comprising:

a first and a second pulley each possessing a pair of conical sheave surfaces opposing each other; and

the power transmission chain according to Claim 4 entrained between ~~these~~ the first and second pulleys and contacting the sheave surfaces for power transmission.